RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 17th December, 2002/26 Agrahayana, 1924 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Tourism projects in Rajasthan

*381. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 237 projects sanctioned for the development of infrastructure in the field of tourism since 2001, only 4 projects have been sanctioned for Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the names of the projects sanctioned for Rajasthan;

(c) the amount spent on each of the projects so far; and

(d) by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Department of Tourism has sanctioned the following 9 projects in Rajasthan since January, 2001:—

Rs. in lakhs

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1.	Integrated development of Ghat at Ramdeora, Jaisalmer.	24.99	7.00
2.	Construction of Shilpgram at Tourist Village, Pushkar	13.74	4.12
3.	Upgradation/Extension of Vinayak Tourist Bungalow at Sawai Madhopur	15.00	4.50
4.	Chemical conservation work at Garh Palace, Jhalawar	8.33	2.50

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
5.	Handicrafts and Food Festival at Mumbai	2.50	1.25
6.	Handicrafts and Food Festival at Baroda	2.50	1.25
7.	Celeberation of Lok Rang Festival, 2002	5.00	4.00
8.	SEL Show at Kumbhalgarh Fort*	195.00	195.00
9.	General lighting of monuments around Kumbhalgarh Fort*	33.60	33.60

*These projects are being executed by the Central Government through it's agencies.

As part of commemoration of 2600 years of Tirthankara Mahavira's Janama Kalyanak the Department of Culture has also sanctioned development works in and around following Jain monuments in Rajasthan:—

Rs. in lakhs

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1.	Panchin Digamber Jain Mandir, Viratnagar, Jaipur	48.95	48.95
2.	Pagaliaji Temple & Rishabdev Temple, Kesariyaji, Udaipur	125.00	125.00
3.	Neminathji Jain Tample, Amber, Jaipur	49.81	49.81
4.	Jain Temple, Zawar Mines, Uadipur	25.00	25.00
5.	Achalgarh Jain Tirth, Mount Abu	25.00	25.00
6.	Jain Temple at Amarsagar, Jaisalmer	15.00	15.00
7.	Development of Van Aushadhi Park at Shri Mahaveerji, Distt. Karauli	22.45	22.45

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
8.	Jain Temple at Lodruvapatan, Jaisalmer	15.00	15.00
9.	Jain Temple at Dilwada, Mount Abu	300.00	300.00
10.	Ranakpur Jain Tirth, Distt. Pali	130.00	130.00
11.	Jain Temple at Tijara, Distt. Alwar	25.00	25.00
12.	Kumbhalgarh Fort	117.00	117.00
13.	Jain Temple complexes in Chittorgarh Fort	100.00	100.00

All these 13 projects are being implemented by the Central Government through it's agencies.

(d) The State Government/Executing Agencies have been advised to expedite work on projects under implementation.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: माननीय सभापति महोदय, 11 दिसम्बर, 2001 को स्टार्ड क्वेश्चन 313 इस सदन में लगा था और उसके परिप्रेक्ष्य में ही मेरा यह मूल प्रश्न था। 11 दिसम्बर, 2001 को जब यह प्रश्न लगा था तो उसमें मैंने मंत्री जी से जो जानना चाहा था उसके उत्तर में उस दिन तक राजस्थान के लिए चार परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत की गयी थीं, यह इस सदन में बताया गया था और 237 करोड़ की लागत उन परियोजनाओं की थी। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से मूल प्रश्न में जानना चाह रहा था कि ये जो मात्र चार परियोजनाएं 237 परियोजनाओं में से राजस्थान के लिए स्वीकृत हुईं उसका क्या कारण था। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी जो उत्तर दिया है उसके अंदर आपने 9 परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत बतायी हैं जिनके अंदर लगभग 253.22 लाख रुपए देना बताया है। एक अन्य प्रश्न जिसका लिखित उत्तर अभी 26.11.2002 को माननीय मंत्री जी ने दिया, उसके अंदर 36 परियोजनाएं राजस्थान के लिए स्वीकृत बतायी हैं जिनमें 591.18 लाख स्वीकृत और 211.14 लाख की राशि देना बताया गया है। यह अलग-अलग जो आंकड़ों का जाल है इससे स्थिति कुछ स्पष्ट नहीं होती है कि राजस्थान के लिए वास्तव में कितनी योजनाएं और कितनी राशि की स्वीकृत की तथा राजस्थान जैसे प्रांत में जहां प्राकृतिक बाहुल्य है, जहां टूरिज्म के दृष्टिकोण से बहुत कुछ है वहां क्यों इतनी कम राशि की परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत की जा रही हैं?

श्री सभापति: अब हो गया। आपका क्वेश्चन आ गया।

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, the first point is that the figure which he is referring to pertains to the Ninth Five-Year Plan. In the tenth Five-Year Plan, the total focus of the scheme has been changed and now we are developing hubs of culture, tourism and good civic life. In the Ninth Five-Year Plan the total number of projects sanctioned for Rajasthan were 72 out of which 53 are still incomplete and the total cost which has been indicated by me is Rs. 11.64 crores. But the hon. Member wants to know whether Rajasthan has been fairly treated or not. In fact, out of these plans which I have with me, I have given at least one great hub of culture, tourism and good civic life in every State. In Rajasthan I have given three—Kumbhalgarh, Chittorgarh and Jaisalmer—and a separate triangle around Shikhavati Bikaner temple is being worked out. Now, there is a total investment of Rs. 18 crores during the last eight months and I have given the figures which include Dilwada with Rs. 3 crores, Chitrakoot, Rs. 1.5 crores, Ranakpur, Rs. 1.3 crores and Kesariya, Rs. 1.25 crores. The total investment made in these environmental projects is Rs. 10 crores. Apart from that, investments have been made at Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh. And these projects are being directly handled by us. In the Ninth Five-Year Plan, the total amount released was Rs. 5.41 crores; and now, even in the last eight months, it is Rs. 18 crores. There is a huge project which I am taking up around the Saraswati excavation at Kalibanga and Hanumangarh which will be another great tourist spot at Rajasthan. I personally feel Rajasthan is the most important State so far as tourism is concerned and we are giving top priority to it. Infact, out of all States, the maximum investment has been made for Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: माननीय मंत्री जी ने राजस्थान को सबसे महत्वपूर्ण और बहुत महत्वपूर्ण माना है। लेकिन टोटल जो योजनाएं स्वीकृत कीं और जो राशि आपने अन्य प्रदेशों में आवंटित की उसकी तुलना में राजस्थान में कम राशि आपने आवंटित की है। जितना पर्यटन राजस्थान में गत चार वर्षों में बढ़ा है, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि वह कितना बढ़ा? राजस्थान में सवाई माधोपुर और रणथम्भोर टाइगर प्रोजेक्ट जहां हैं वह पर्यटन के दृष्टिकोण से बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। सभापति महोदय, क्लिंटन भी वहां गए थे, मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या वहां के लिये भी कोई परियोजना आप के ध्यान में है और उसे बढ़ावा देने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री सभापति: आप सीधा एक प्रश्न कर लेते तो जवाब अच्छा आ जाता।

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, I have mentioned about the investment of Rs.18 crores during the last eight months or so. This is the maximum given to any State. Secondly, I have visited all the States; and I have visited this State three times. I am again going to some of those areas, including Ranthambhore. So, we will take care of it. At Ranthambhore, in the fort area, Rs. 30 lakhs have been spent for repairs and renovation recently.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: रणथम्बोर टाइगर प्रोजक्ट के बारे में मंत्री जी बता दें ...(*व्यवधान*)...

सभापति: ठीक है, आप ने कह दिया।

SHRI NATWAR SINGH: Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to let us know the critetria on which these four projects were selected, because I come from Bharatpur and there the Garden Palaces of Deegh are in total disrepair. I would be very happy to give the hon. Minister a guided tour of this area, because two great buildings were built in north India in the 18th century, the Safdarjung's Tomb and the Garden Palaces of Deegh. Why were they not included? I will be grateful for your answer.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, the State of Rajasthan is so rich that it is very difficult to make a selection of just three or four places. Your turn will also come, Sir. And I will very happy to take a guided tour from my hon. friend.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, out of these 237 projects, how many projects have been given to the State of Andhra Pradesh? What is the total amount that has been sanctioned? After information technology, after the medical hubs, सभापति जी, खेल जगत में 250 करोड़ रुपए खर्च कर के वहां 8 स्टेडियम्स बनाए गए हैं और अब मुख्य मंत्री श्री चन्द्र बाबू नायडू वहां पर्यटन के ऊपर विशेष जोर दे रहे हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि आंध्र प्रदेश के लिए आपने कितने प्रोजेक्ट्स सैंक्शन किए हैं, कितनी अमाउंट सैंक्शन की है और ये प्रोजेक्ट्स कब तक कम्प्लीट होने की संभावना है?

श्री सभापति: आपके पास यदि जानकारी हो तो दे दीजिए।

श्री जगमोहन: मैं बता देता हूं। Sir, this question pertains to Rajasthan. So far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, it has not been ignored. A lot of

work has been done. These 237 projects that the hon. Member is referring to, pertain to the Ninth Five Year Plan. (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, what is this? This question was about Rajasthan. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: What about West Bengal?

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, when he has mentioned about these 237 projects, the hon. Minister should have the State-wise break-up. (*Interruptions*) Sir, you have to come to our rescue. I have raised a question; he should have information about all the States.

श्री सभापति: मंत्री महोदय, यदि इस समय जानकारी नहीं दी जा सकती तो उन्हें जानकारी भिजवा दीजिए।

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, I have the information. These 237 projects which the hon. Member is referring to, pertain to the year 2001. So far as the State of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, it has recently got Rs. 2.20 crores for a big hotel management project. I have personally gone there. The hon. Chief Minister was also there. We have sanctioned that project. Then, Rs.2.5 crores were given for another hotel management project. We have given money for eco-tourism also in Andhra Pradesh. So, there is no dearth of assistance. In fact, ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. KARAN SINGH: What about Jammu and Kashmir which is a premier tourism State?

श्री जगमोहन: महोदय डा॰ फारुख अब्दुल्ला साहब बैठे हैं, मैंने इनसे बात की थी। We are wanting to give as much help as is required. (*Interruptions*)

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Sir, Andhra Pradesh, ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री सभापति: मंत्री महोदय, सभी मेंबर्स यह जानने के लिए इच्छुक हैं कि उनके स्टेट में आपने पर्यटन की कितनी योजनाएं शुरू की हैं और कितना-कितना धन दिया है। इसलिए आप सभी मेंबर्स के पास एक स्टेटमेंट भिजवा दें तो अच्छा रहेगा।

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, I am giving a presentation tomorrow to the Standing Committee of Parliament. All those who are interested are welcome to this Committee Room. I will give you the presentation of what we are intending to do. In fact, it will be very good thing for all of you to see what is being done, what approach we have adopted and so on.

We will give one or two illustrations. So, all of you are welcome at 10 o'clock in Room No.63, or whatever it is.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: राजस्थान में पेंडिंग योजनाओं के बारे में ...

श्री सभापति: आपका प्रश्न हो गया।

श्री जगमोहन: कोई योजना पेंडिंग नहीं है। In fact, the hon. Chief Minister has written a letter, thanking me for the deep interest I have taken in Rajasthan.

Higher interest rates in RRBs

*382. SHRI RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that interest rates in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are higher than those of commercial banks; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to take up the right type of restructuring plan for RRBs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The interest rate structure of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) is generally more or less similar to that of the commercial banks/sponsor banks operating in their area of operation.

As part of financial sector reforms, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has deregulated the interest rate structure in the Banking Sector. The Board of Directors of each RRB is free to decide their interest rate structure taking into account the cost of funds, competitive rates in their command area, yield of loans/investments, establishment cost, etc.

(b) To facilitate strenghtening and revitalisation of RRBs the following policy initiatives have been taken:—

- recapitalisation of 187 RRBs;
- diversification of business portfolio and activities;